California Regional Water Quality Control Board Santa Ana Region

September 6, 2002

ITEM:

SUBJECT: Waiver of waste discharge requirements for specific types of discharges, Resolution

No. R8-2002-0044

DISCUSSION:

The Regional Board prescribes Waste Discharge Requirements for waste discharges in accordance with Section 13263 of the California Water Code. Many types of discharges, however, do not contain a significant amount of pollutants, and have no significant effect on the quality and beneficial uses of the waters of the State. It is in the best interest of the public and the Board not to expend the resources necessary to regulate discharges that have an insignificant potential to affect water quality standards.

Section 13269 of the California Water Code empowers the Regional Board to waive waste discharge requirements for specific types of discharges where such a waiver is not against the public interest. Such waivers are conditional and may be terminated by the Board at any time.

Recent legislation (Senate Bill 390) amended Section 13269. As amended, Section 13269 stipulates that all existing waivers will expire on January 1, 2003 unless they are renewed by the Regional Board at a public hearing. It also specifies that all waivers must be reviewed at 5-year intervals and either renewed or terminated

On March 8, 1996, the Regional Board adopted Resolution No. 96-9, which waived waste discharge requirements for specific types of discharges, provided that certain conditions stipulated in the Resolution are met. The specific type of discharges that are waived include the following:

- a. Minor Dredging Projects,
- b. Inert Waste Disposal Operations,
- c. Bridge Seismic Retrofitting,
- d. Projects Which Impact Wetlands and/or Riparian Habitats,
- e. Sand, Gravel, and Quarry Operations,
- f. Residential Wastewater Disposal Systems (septic tanks) Not Within Prohibition Areas.
- g. Industrial and Commercial Wastewater Disposal Systems (septic tanks) Not Within Prohibition Areas.
- h. Minor Stream Channel Alterations,
- i. Monitoring Well Purge Water,

- j. Well Drill Cuttings,
- k. Incidental Discharge of Oily Wastewater During Oil Spill Response Activities, and
- 1. Other Insignificant Discharges of Wastewater to Land (eg: potable water pipeline draining, groundwater dewatering, etc.).

The proposed Resolution No. R8-2002-0044 updates the list of specific types of discharges for which waste discharge requirements would be waived, again provided that certain criteria and conditions are met. The following types of discharges that were previously waived in Resolution No. 96-9 are not included in the proposed Resolution No. R8-2002-0044:

- a. Minor Dredging Projects,
- b. Bridge Seismic Retrofitting,
- c. Projects Which Impact Wetlands and/or Riparian Habitats, and
- d. Minor Stream Channel Alterations.

Board staff believes that, for the most part, general waste discharge requirements can and should be formulated to address each of these types of discharges. One advantage of this approach is that the requirements can be more explicitly tailored to each type of discharge to assure that water quality and beneficial uses will be protected. Another advantage is that the requirements would need to be reviewed only once every ten years, as opposed to the 5-year review of waivers now mandated by the Water Code. This has obvious advantages in terms of Regional Board resources. Where circumstances dictate the need for it, individual waste discharge requirements could be issued for specific projects.

The types of waste discharges listed in Attachment "A" to Resolution No. R8-2002-0044 were identified on the basis that they should not result in significant adverse environmental effects, provided that the criteria and conditions also listed in Attachment "A" are satisfied. The proposed Resolution No. R8-2002-0044, if approved, would expire on September 1, 2007.

The waiver of waste discharge requirements is a project for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In accordance with CEQA, Board staff has prepared an Initial Study and finds that no significant environmental impacts would result from the adoption and implementation of Resolution No. R8-2002-0044. A Draft Negative Declaration has therefore been prepared. Adoption of Resolution No.R8-2002-0044 includes the adoption of the Negative Declaration

The waiver of waste discharge requirements for the specific types of discharges identified in Attachment "A" will not affect the Regional Board's authority to regulate discharges where water quality or beneficial uses could be impacted. This waiver may be terminated at any time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution No. R8-2002-0044 as presented.

Comments were solicited from the following agencies:

U.S. Army District, Los Angeles, Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Carlsbad

State Water Resources Control Board, Office of the Chief Counsel – Jorge Leon

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality – Jim Maughan

State Department of Health Services, Santa Ana – Frank Hamamura

State Department of Health Services, Carpenteria – John Curphey

State Department of Health Services, Carpenteria - Jeff Stone

State Department of Health Services, San Diego – Steve Williams

State Department of Health Services, San Bernardino – Kalyanpur Baliga

State Department of Water Resources - Glendale

State Department of Fish and Game – Long Beach

Orange County Water District - Nira Yamachika

Orange County Health Care Agency

Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Riverside County Department of Environmental Health Services

San Bernardino County Department of Environmental Health Services

San Bernardino County Flood Control District

Orange County Coastkeeper – Garry Brown

Lawyers for Clean Water – c/o San Francisco Bay Keeper

Additional list (see attached mailing list)

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Santa Ana Region

RESOLUTION NO. R8-2002-0044

Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Specific Types of Discharges

WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (hereinafter Board), finds that:

- 1. Section 13263(a) of the California Water Code requires Regional Boards to prescribe requirements for existing and proposed waste discharges in their respective areas of jurisdiction.
- 2. Section 13269 of the California Water Code authorizes Regional Boards to waive waste discharge requirements for a specific discharge or specific types of discharges where such a waiver is not against the public interest.
- 3. The waiver of waste discharge requirements for discharges that do not pose a significant threat to water quality, where such waiver is not against the public interest, would enable staff resources to be used effectively and avoid unnecessary expenditures of these limited resources
- 4. On October 10, 1999, Senate Bill (SB) 390 amended Water Code Sections 13269 and 13350. SB 390 includes the following:
 - a. Extends all waivers in effect on January 1, 2000 for three years to January 1, 2003 (unless terminated earlier):
 - b. Requires renewal in five-year increments thereafter for all waivers;
 - c. All existing waivers expire on January 1, 2003 unless renewed;
 - d. Requires Regional Boards to conduct a public hearing prior to renewing any waiver for a specific type of discharge in order to determine whether the discharge should be subject to genereal or individual waste discharge requirements;
 - e. Imposes a duty on the Regional Boards and State Boards to enforce the waiver conditions;
 - f. Specifically expands the authority of the Regional Boards to take enforcement action for violations of waiver conditions and 401 certifications.
- 5. On March 8, 1996, the Regional Board adopted Resolution No. 96-9 for waiver of waste discharge requirements for specific types of discharges.

- 6. Resolution No. 96-9 must be reviewed and revised to comply with the requirements of SB 390.
- 7. Attachment "A" to this resolution lists specific types of discharges that would have an insignificant effect on the quality of waters of the State, provided the corresponding criteria and conditions are met.
- 8. Waiving waste discharge requirements for the specific types of discharges listed in Attachment "A" is not against the public interest.
- 9. The Board has reviewed the Initial Study concerning this resolution prepared by the Board staff in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.) and the State Guidelines and concurs with the staff findings that a Negative Declaration should be adopted.
- 10. On September 6, 2002, the Board held a public hearing and considered all the evidence concerning this matter. Notice of this hearing was given to all interested persons in accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Section 15072.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region:

- 1. Adopts the Initial Study and Negative Declaration regarding the waiver of waste discharge requirements for specific types of discharges, as listed in Attachment "A" to this Resolution, and directs the Executive Officer to file a Notice of Determination with the State Clearinghouse as required by the California Code of Regulations.
- 2. Waives waste discharge requirements for the specific types of discharges listed in Attachment "A", except those for which individual waste discharge requirements or general waste discharge requirements have already been adopted. Waste discharge requirements are waived for each specific type of discharge listed provided that the corresponding criteria and conditions are met.
- 3. This waiver of waste discharge requirements expires on September 1, 2007. Any action under this waiver is conditional and may be terminated for any type of discharge or any specific discharge at any time within the term of this waiver.
- 4. Waste discharge requirements for a specific discharge shall be considered waived only after a Report of Waste Discharge is submitted and the Executive Officer agrees that the conditions specified in Attachment "A" for the specific type of discharge will be met.

I, Gerard J. Thibeault, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, on September 6, 2002.

Gerard J. Thibeault Executive Officer Attachment "A" to Resolution No. R8-2002-0044 Specific Types of Discharges for Which Waste Discharge Requirements are Waived (Provided Criteria and Conditions are Met)

TYPES OF DISCHARGE	CRITERIA AND CONDITIONS
Inert Waste Disposal Operations	Only inert waste, as defined in Section 20230, Division 2, Title 27, of the California Code of Regulations, will be disposed of. Ten percent (10%) by volume of wood waste or tree trunks from demolition projects is allowable. No green waste or gypsum board (or similar construction wastes) are allowed, and
Disposar Operations	Controls sufficient to contain all surface runoff are installed, where necessary, and
	2. The site will be adequately secured to prevent unauthorized disposal by the public.
	1. All operations and wash waters are contained within the facility,
Sand, Gravel, and Quarry Operations	2. No waste discharge (including storm water runoff from operations areas) to surface waters will occur, and
	3. Stockpiles and settling basins will be protected from inundation from 100-year peak storm flows.
Residential Wastewater Disposal Systems (septic tanks) Not Within Prohibition Areas	1. Developments in Orange County comply with the Regional Board's "Guidelines for Sewage Disposal from Land Developments". Developments in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties comply with the individual county guidelines to discharge wastes to septic systems.
	Only sanitary wastes to be discharged into the septic systems, and
Industrial and Commercial Wastewater Disposal Systems (septic tanks) Not Within Prohibition Areas	2. Developments in Orange County comply with the Regional Board's "Guidelines for Sewage Disposal from Land Developments". Developments in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties comply with the individual county guidelines to discharge wastes to septic systems.
Monitoring Well Purge Water	1. Purge water is discharged to the ground in a manner so that it will percolate back into the aquifer in the same general area from which it came, and
	2. Adequate measures will be taken to prevent purge water from reaching surface waters.

TYPES OF DISCHARGE		CRITERIA AND CONDITIONS
Wall Drill Cyttin on	1.	Cuttings determined not to be considered as hazardous waste, and
Well Drill Cuttings	2.	Cuttings disposed of or used in a manner so as to not affect water quality or beneficial uses.
Incidental Discharge of Oily	1.	Discharges occur during an oil spill response activity, and
Wastewater During Oil Spill Response Activities	2.	Discharges are within or proximate to the oil spill response area.
Other Insignificant Discharges of Wastewater to Land (eg: potable	1.	All wastewater discharged in a manner so that it will percolate into the ground before reaching surface waters, and
water pipeline draining, groundwater dewatering, etc.)	2.	All wastewater disposed of or used in a manner so as to not affect water quality or beneficial uses.

The following conditions apply to all of the above types of discharges:

- 1. Implementation of the project shall not create a nuisance or pollution as defined in the California Water Code.
- 2. The project shall not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standard for receiving waters adopted by the Regional Board or the State Water Resources Control Board, as required by the Clean Water Act.
- 3. The discharge of any substance in concentrations toxic to animal or plant life is prohibited.

NOTICE OF FILING

To: Any Interested Person

From:

California Regional Water Quality

Control Board, Santa Ana Region, 3737 Main Street, Suite 500.

Riverside, CA 92501-3348

SUBJECT:

Negative Declaration prepared in accordance with Section

21080(c) of the Public Resources Code and Sections 15070 and

15071 of the California Code of Regulations.

PROJECT PROPONENT:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana

Region

PROJECT TITLE:

Resolution No. R8-2002-0044, Waiver of Waste Discharge

Requirements.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for specific

types of discharges that have no significant adverse effects on the

waters of the State.

CONTACT PERSON:

J. Shami - Telephone No. (909) 782-3288

This is to advise you that an Initial Study and Draft Negative Declaration have been filed with the State Clearinghouse and the Clerks of San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange Counties. Action on these documents will be taken in accordance with Title 14, Sections 15072 through 15075 of the California Code of Regulations.

Copies of the Initial Study and Draft Negative Declaration can be obtained from the Contact Person named above.

Comments on the Initial Study and Draft Negative Declaration should be submitted by August 19, 2002.

Joanne E. Schneider

Environmental Program Manager

Dated: June 17, 2002

DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), the staff of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, prepared an Initial Study of the possible impacts of the following described project:

PROJECT PROPONENT: California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region

PROJECT TITLE: Resolution No. R8-2002-0044, Waiver of Waste Discharge

Requirements.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for specific

types of discharges that have no significant adverse effects on the waters of the State. Waste discharge requirements are waived for the discharges listed in Attachment "A" to Resolution No. R8-2002-0044 provided that specified criteria and conditions are met. The waiver may be terminated for any type of discharge or any specific discharge at any time. This waiver of waste discharge requirements expires on September 1, 2007. The Regional Board may consider renewal of the waiver at a future public hearing, provided that CEQA

and other relevant requirements are satisfied.

CONTACT PERSON: J. Shami - Telephone No. (909) 782-3288

FINDING:

This project, as described and proposed herein, will not have a significant effect on the environment, therefore, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is not required by CEQA.

In support of this finding, a copy of the Initial Study is attached.

Gerard J. Thibeault Executive Officer

Dated: June 17, 2002

Attachment: Initial Study

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECK LIST

(To Be Completed By Lead Agency)

1. Dackground	I.	Background
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Dack	grounu:		
1.	Lead Agency: California	rnia Regional V	Vater Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region
2.	Project Title:	Resolution No	o. R8-2002-0044
3.	Project Description:	specific types the waters of	for waiver of waste discharge requirements for of discharges which have no adverse effects on of the Region and/or which are effectively other local public agencies.
4.	Contact Person:	Jun Martirez -	Telephone No. (909) 782-3258
5.	Date of Checklist Sub	omitted:	June 17, 2002
6.	Agency Requiring Ch	necklist:	Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region
Environmental Impacts			
(Explai	nation of all "yes" and "	maybe" answer	s are required on attached sheets.)

II.

			Yes	Maybe	No
1.	Ear	th. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Unstable earth conditions or changes in geologic substructures?			X
	b.	Disruptions, displacements, compaction or overcoming of the soil?			X
	c.	Change in topography or ground surface relief features?			X
	d.	The destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?			v
		Touturos:			Λ

			Yes	Maybe	No
	e.	Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site?			X
	f.	Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sands, or changes in siltation, deposition or erosion which may modify the channel of river or stream or of the ocean or any bay, inlet or lake?			X
	g.	Exposure of people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, mudslides, ground failure, or similar hazards?			X
2.	Air.	Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Substantial air emissions or deterioration of ambient air quality?			X
	b.	The creation of objectionable odors?_			X
	c.	Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?			_ X
3.	Wat	er. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Changes in current, or the course of direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters?			X
	b.	Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface runoff?			X
	c.	Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters?			X
	d.	Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?			X
	e.	Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?			X

			Yes_	Maybe	No
	f.	Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of groundwater?			X
	g.	Change in the quantity of groundwaters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations?			_ X
	h.	Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?			X
	i.	Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves?			_ X
4.	Plar	nt Life. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Change in the diversity of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?			_ X
	b.	Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants?			X
	c.	Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species?			_ X
	d.	Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop?			X
5.	Ani	mal Life. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Change in the diversity of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, land animals, including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms or insects)?			X
	b.	Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals?			X
	c.	Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?			X
	d.	Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat?			X

			Yes	Maybe	No
6.	Nois	se. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Increases in existing noise levels?			X
	b.	Exposure of people to severe noise levels?			X
7.	Ligl	ht and Glare. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Produce new light or glare?			X
8.	Lan	d Use. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	A substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of the area?			X
9.	Nat	ural Resources. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources?			X
10.	Risl	x of Upset. Will the proposal involve:			
	a.	A risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to, oil, pesticides, chemicals or radiation) in the event of an accident or upset conditions?			X
	b.	Possible interference with an emergency response plan or an emergency evaluation plan?			X
11.	Pop	ulation. Will the proposal alter:			
	a.	The location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?			X
12.	Hou	using. Will the proposal affect:			
	a.	Housing or create a demand for additional housing?			X
13.		nsportation/Circulation. Will the proposal lt in:			
	a.	Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement?			X
	b.	Effects on existing parking facilities, or demand of new parking?			X
	c.	Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems?			X

			Yes	Maybe	No
	d.	Alterations to prevent patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or			V
	2	goods?			<u>X</u> X
	e. f.	Alterations to waterborne, rail or traffic? Increase in traffic hazards to motor			
	1.	vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians?			X
14.	upor	lic Services. Will the proposal have an effect n, or result in a need for new or altered ernmental services in any of the following s:			
	a.	Fire protection?			X
	b.	Police protection?			X
	c.	Schools?			X
	d.	Parks or other recreational facilities?			X
	e.	Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?			X
	f.	Other governmental services?			X
15.	Ene	rgy. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy?			X
	b.	Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources or energy, or require the development of new sources of energy?			X
16.	Utili	ities. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	A need for new systems, or substantial alterations to the following utilities?			X
17.	Hun	nan Health. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)?			X
	b.	Exposure of people to potential health hazards?			X
18.	Aest	thetics. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	The obstruction of any scenic vista or view open to the public, or will the proposal result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?			X

			Yes	Maybe	No
19.	Rec	reation. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	An impact upon the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities?			X
20.	Cul	tural Resources. Will the proposal result in:			
	a.	The alteration of or the destruction of a prehistoric or historic archaeological site?			X
	b.	Adverse physical or aesthetic effects to a prehistoric or historic building, structure, or object?			X
	c.	The potential to cause a physical change which would effect unique ethnic cultural values?			X
	d.	Restricting existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?			X
21.	Mai	ndatory Findings of Significance.			
	a.	Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habit of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?			X
	b.	Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals? (A short-term impact on the environment is one which occurs in a relatively brief, definitive period of time while long-term impacts will endure well into the future.)			X
	c.	Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project may impact on two or more separate resources where the impact on each resource is relatively small, but where the effect on total of those impacts on the environment is significant.)			X

			Yes	Maybe	No
	d.	Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			X
III.	(Na	accussion of Environmental Evaluation arrative description of environmental bacts.) See attached			
IV.	De	termination			
	On	the basis of this initial evaluation:			
	hav and	nd that the proposed project COULD NOT we a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be spared.	X		
	have the mit she NE	nd that although the proposed project could be a significant effect on the environment, are will not be a significant effect in the digation measures described on a attached set that has been added to the project. A CGATIVE DECLARATION will be spared.			
	sig EN	nd the proposed project MAY have a nificant effect on the environment, and a VIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is uired.			
<u>June</u>	17, 2	002	E.1 (1		
			Filomeno (1)	ın) T. Martirez Ir. P.E.	

Filomeno (Jun) T. Martirez Jr., P.E. Senior Water Resources Control Engineer